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Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to clause (*a*) may I know whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information as several inhabitants are interested in the affair ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" The information that I can now give is that it will be disposed of. But I hardly think that that is what the hon. Member wants."

Public Services.

Increments to unpassed clerks.

*2276 *Q*—Mr. Chavadi K. SUBRAHMANYA PILLAI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of applications for exemption from unpassed clerks received after the issue of G.O. No. 1478, Law (Education), dated 25th August 1925 ;

(*b*) the number of unpassed candidates previously exempted by the Government for promotion above Rs. 20 in the old scale who drew increments but were affected by G.O. No. 773, Law (Education), dated 3rd May 1926 ;

(*c*) the number exempted by the heads of departments under the powers delegated to them under G.O. No. 722, Law (Education), dated 13th June 1922 ; and

(*d*) the circumstances under which the unpassed clerks were allowed to draw increments till the end of 1925 ?

A.—(*a*) The question is not understood. The Government would not have received applications for exemption as heads of departments had then the power to exempt. The power was withdrawn only in G.O. No. 773, Law (Education), dated 3rd May 1926.

(*b*) If a candidate was exempted from the Public Service Notification by Government, he is not affected by G.O. No. 773, Law (Education), dated 3rd May 1926. If he was exempted only up to a specified limit in the old graded scale of pay, it is only paragraph 3 (i) of G.O. No. 773, Law (Education), dated 3rd May 1926, that will affect him. The number is not known.

(*c*) The number will not be known till the Government get the lists called for in paragraph 3 (iii) of G.O. No. 773, Law (Education), dated 3rd May 1926.

(*d*) The Government are not aware that unexempted clerks have been allowed to draw increments after the issue of G.O. No. 164, Law (Education), dated 4th February 1925.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" When the Government issued the order in August 1925, were they not aware that Collectors had reported that certain unexempted clerks had been permitted to receive increments ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Not after the issue of G.O. No. 164, Law (Education), dated 4th February 1925."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Was it not with regard to that Government Order that representations were received from the Collectors that there were some difficulties with regard to its interpretation, and was it not subsequent to that that G.O. No. 1478, dated 25th August 1925, was issued ? "

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The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—"There were differences in interpretation regarding the drawing of increments before the Government Order of 4th February 1925 but not after that date."

Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu :—"Was there any Government order at any time specifically prohibiting the grant of increments to unpassed clerks?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—"In the sense that we did not prohibit the grant of anything to any person not entitled to it?"

Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu :—"No, Sir. I wish to know whether there was any Government order instructing heads of departments not to give increments to unpassed clerks at any time?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—"Sir, when you are not empowered to give any increment to unpassed clerks it is not necessary to say that you should not do so."

Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu :—"Is there any rule which prevents heads of departments granting increments to unpassed clerks who have been exempted from the examination rules?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—"If they are exempted, the bar is removed. I do not follow the question."

Rai Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu :—"Exempted from passing the examinations?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—"If the man is exempted, the bar is removed and he is entitled to get any promotion just as any passed clerk."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"What about clerks appointed at the time when no exemption was needed at all?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—"I am not aware of any such period."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"There was a time when the rule that unpassed clerks should be exempted before being appointed, was not in operation?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. Marjoribanks :—"That is information to me, Sir."

Village Establishments.

Instructions regarding restoration of village officers.

* 2277 Q.—Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether instructions have been issued to all District Collectors with reference to the restoration of village officers and, if so, whether a copy of the instructions will be placed on the table; and

(*b*) how many village officers have been re-registered and reappointed (till the end of May 1926)?